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## (54) MODIFIED VALERIAN ROOT OIL AND ITS PRODUCTION

### (57)Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To obtain the subject oil capable of developing fruity and woody aroma while retaining sedative effect without unpleasant odor and useful for cosmetics, products, etc., for oral cavities by treating valerian root oil containing a fatty acid with an alkali and removing the fatty acid.

**SOLUTION:** (A) Valerian root oil [e.g. essential oil obtained by subjecting rhizome of *Valeriana officinalis* L., *Valeriana fauriei* forma *yezoensis*, *Valeriana wallichii* D.C., etc., to steam distillation or solvent extraction] containing a fatty acid (A1) is subjected to alkali treatment to remove the component A1. The modified valerian root oil is readily and inexpensively obtained in  $\geq 90\%$  high yield by dissolving the component A in an ether, adding sodium hydrogen carbonate aqueous solution thereto to extract the component A1, further adding sodium hydroxide aqueous solution thereto to extract the component A1 and drying the resultant ether layer with anhydrous magnesium sulfate, etc., and subjecting ether to distillation under reduced pressure.

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